

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 remain in the present application. Claims 1, 12 and 13 are independent claims.

The Examiner has imposed a restriction requirement, and requested that Applicants elect one of two identified groups of claims for prosecution in connection with the present application. The groups of claims are as follows:

Group I: claims 1-11 and 13-15, drawn to a process of making a transformer; and

Group II: claim 12, drawn to a bobbin.

The Examiner also required that Applicants elect one of the following distinct species of the claimed invention for device claims 1-15:

Species I-A, directed to cutting a ribbon at a desired length;

Species I-B, directed to pre-bending a ribbon;

Species I-C, directed to providing a layer of low coefficient of friction;

Species I-D, directed to arranging a flexible transmission element;

Species I-E, directed to rotating a bent bobbin with a coil;

Species I-F, directed to injecting a medium through an opening; and

Species I-G, directed to performing a magnetic field.

In response to the Examiner's Restriction Requirement and election of species, Applicants elect, with traverse, to prosecute **Group I** and **Species I-A**, including at least claims 1, 2 and 13-15. Further, at least, claims 1 and 13-15 are generic. Further, Applicants request the *rejoinder* of the non-elected invention when the generic claims are allowed.

In addition, Applicants specifically reserves the right to file divisional application(s) directed to the non-elected claims.

In regard to the traversal of the Restriction Requirement/Election of Species, Applicants note that this application is national phase of a PCT application PCT/SE04/01007, which is governed according to PCT Article 27(1), i.e., the unity requirement applicable in this case is the requirement given in the PCT regulations. Further, according to PCT Rule 13, the requirement of unity shall be considered fulfilled "...when there is a technical relationship among those inventions involving one or more of the same or corresponding special technical features." Further, in PCT Applicants Guide I §131, this rule is construed for the case where the invention is claimed in different categories.

In Group I, the independent claim 1 relates to a method for manufacture of toroidal transformers, comprising, e.g., the steps of arranging a coil around the periphery of a hollow bobbin of elongated shape and of flexible material, bending the bobbin with the coil so that the bobbin ends are brought towards each other, and feeding a ribbon through the opening defined by the bobbin ends.

In Group II, the independent claim 12 relates to a bobbin for manufacture of torodial transformers, where the bobbin is further described with reference to features such as elongated and flexible, and with a description of how it is adapted to be bent, wherein the wording describing these features bear a close resemblance to the wording used in claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that there is a clear technical relationship between the method for manufacture of torodial transformers and the bobbin of manufacture of torodial transformers, involving corresponding technical

features. In other words, the bobbin of Group II technically relates in a natural fashion to the method for manufacture of toroidal transformers of Group I, and all the claims should be allowed to reside in the same application.

As for the election of Species, Applicants submit that the Species (I-A to I-G) do define one single invention concept and believe it would not be an undue burden for the Examiner to examine all of the claims in the application.

For instance, the Species (I-A to I-G) all relate in the manner that the ribbon is being wound the required amount of windings and that the windings are tightly packed sufficiently inside the bobbin so that the hollow interior thereof is filled optimally, whereby a core is formed.

The cutting of the ribbon (relating to Species I-A) is a prerequisite for having just the right amount of ribbon material available for filling the hollow interior of the bobbin so that an optimal core may be formed. The other Species (I-B to I-G) refer to various embodiments of a solution to how the windings can be just tightly enough packed inside the bobbin, further serving to form an optimal core.

In addition, it is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one group would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be performed without serious burden. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner would not be unduly burdened if forced to examine Groups I and II.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants' and duplicated examination by the Patent Office.

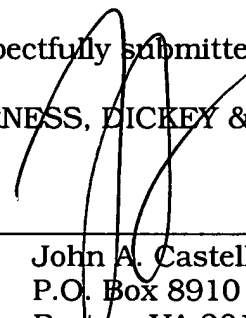
For all of the above stated reasons, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding Restriction Requirement and Election of Species, and favorable allowance of all claims in the instant application are earnestly solicited.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, PLC

By



John A. Castellano, Reg. No. 35,094
P.O. Box 8910
Reston, VA 20195
(703) 668-8000

JAC/DJC:clc